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Attorney Docket # 1787

Applicant(s) : SUGG, B., ET AL

Serial No. :

Filed :

For : PIEZOELECTRIC ELEMENT WITH A MULTI-LAYER STRUCTURE OF PIEZOELECTRIC PLIES...

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

December 6, 2001

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

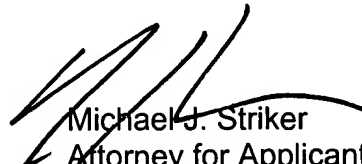
S I R S:

- _____ In accordance with the Duty of Disclosure, Applicant(s) submit(s) herewith a copy of a Foreign Search Report in a counterpart application and copies of the reference(s) indicated therein.
- _____ In the event that the Foreign Search Report is in a foreign language, a translation thereof is herewith submitted.
- X Attached hereto is a FORM PTO 1449 listing the references.
- _____ Attached hereto is a copy of a reference cited in the specification of the application as filed. The specification itself recites the relevance of these documents.
- _____ Applicant petitions for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being submitted after receipt of an office action and submits herewith the required fee. If this fee is missing or insufficient, then authorization is given to debit the account of the undersigned: 19-4675.

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- ____ Attached hereto are copies of references cited which may be pertinent to this application. Since the references are in the English language, no statement of relevance is submitted.
- ____ Attached hereto is a copy of the Office Action issued in the corresponding German application, together with a translation thereof and copies of the references cited therein. A list of the cited references is also attached.
- ____ Attached hereto copies of references cited which may be pertinent to this application. An English translation of the references is also attached.
- X Attached hereto is a Statement of Relevancy and copies of references cited therein.
- X These references were sent to the USPTO by WIPO and are in the file of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 27233

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3 STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

4
5 **Acknowledgements of the publications cited in the parallel German**
6 **examination procedure within the scope of duty of disclosure:**

7
8 Piezoelectric actuators are described in **US 5 761 782** that are composed of
9 folded-up films. In contrast to the subject of the invention, however, these films
10 are coated with metal electrodes on both sides, so that two electrode layers
11 always lie on top of each other after they are folded up. Moreover, each foil
12 comprises integrally moulded electrical contacts at its beginning or end, while
13 separate external electrodes are provided in the subject of the invention, that are
14 repeatedly contacted with the continuous internal electrodes.

15
16 A piezoelectric element which is also constructed of a plurality of layers is made
17 known in **WO 98/05080 A1**. In this piezoelectric element, however, the various
18 piezoceramic layers are produced using a casting technique and not by means of
19 folding a film that is initially continuous and provided with notches before folding.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
1787

Application Number
097980991

Applicant(s)
SUGG, B., ET AL

JC10 Rec'd PCT/PTO 06 DEC 2001

Filing Date

Group Art Unit

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,761,782	06/09/98	SAGER			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		98/05080	02/05/98	WO			✓	
		0 844 678 A	05/27/98	EP				✓
		0 167 740 A	01/15/86	EP				✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	LEE J. K. ET AL" "MULTILAYERED PIEZOELECTRIC FLEXURE DEVICE", RESEARCH DISCLOSURE, BD. 187, NOV. 1979, PP. 627-628.
	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN VOL. 013, NO. 310 (M-850), JULY 14, 1989 & JP 01 097604 A, APRIL 17, 1989 & JP 01 097604, APRIL 17, 1989.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.